As for Mutukulam *proverthi*, Kartikapalli taluk, an extent of about 137 acres was encroached upon by the sea in the Arattupuzha *pakuthi* of the same *proverthi* within the last 15 years. The tax on these lands has been struck off the accounts. Government have no information in regard to the loss sustained by the people on account of encroachments by the sea and the bar. Government cannot afford relief in such cases.

Prawn Industry in Travancore.

410. MR. C. RAMANKUNJU (*Nominated*): (*a*) Are the Government aware that the prawn industry in the State is handicapped by continuous and heavy fluctuations of prices in the Rangoon market?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to enquire into the effect of fluctuations in prices in the Rangoon market upon the fisherfolk and their industry in the State and take immediate steps to improve the position?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The Government are informed that the prices of prawns in the Rangoon market are subject to continuous and heavy fluctuations.

(*b*) Such fluctuations cannot be regulated by any action of the Government. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies and the Director of Industries will be instructed to help the fisherfolk concerned with suggestions and advice.

Mr. A. O. Jacob as X-ray Expert.

411. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): (*a*) Is it a fact that one Mr. A. O. Jacob has been ordered by the Darbar Physician to undergo X-ray training in England at his own expense on the understanding that he would be provided with a place in the Medical Department on his return?

(*b*) Was any one in the department asked whether he was prepared to undergo training at his own expense in England?

(*c*) Why did the Government not depute medical men already in the service to undergo training at Dehra Dhun?

(*d*) Have the Government given an undertaking that Mr. A. O. Jacob will be entertained in the service as soon as he returns after training?

(*e*) Do the Government intend to retain him permanently in the X-ray Department on his return?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Mr. A. O. Jacob B. A., M. B. B. S., applied to the Darbar Physician and the Government stating that he would specialise in electro-therapeutics in England if the Government would entertain him in the Medical Department on his return. On the recommendation of the Darbar Physician, Government sanctioned the acceptance of Mr. Jacob's offer subject to the following conditions:

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[Mr. M. N. Pillai.]

Mr. Jacob should immediately proceed to England and study and obtain a Diploma in Medical Radiology and Electrology in Cambridge or London, and, after qualification, visit and see the practical working of the electro-therapeutic departments in the various London Hospitals for a period of three months, at his own expense.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) The training in England is reported to be far superior to what can be had at Dehra Dhun or anywhere else in India.

(*d*) *Vide* answer to para (*a*) above.

(*e*) Government cannot make any pronouncement now.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*) : May I know what necessited the Darbar Physician to recommend Mr. A. O. Jacob, an outsider, to undergo training in Europe without consulting the officers already in service ?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The answer consists of several parts. I should like to know with reference to which part he puts the supplementary question.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*) : In the answer it is stated as follows :

"(*a*) Mr. A. O. Jacob B. A., M. B. B. S., applied to the Darbar Physician and the Government, stating that he would specialise in electro-therapeutics in England if the Government would entertain him in the Medical Department on his return. On the recommendation of the Darbar Physician, Government sanctioned the acceptance of Mr. Jacob's offer subject to the following conditions :

"Mr. Jacob should immediately proceed to England and study and obtain a Diploma in Medical Radiology and Electrology in Cambridge or London, and after qualification, visit and see the practical working of the electro-therapeutic departments in the various London Hospitals for a period of three months, at his own expense."

Are there not men undergoing training in England ? Why should not the Government ask any of those men who receive scholarship from the State to undergo training for three months in England in X-ray and electro-therapeutics ?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No medical student in England is holding a scholarship from the Government now.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): But there were men. Was it after those men returned that this man was sent ?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Some men have gone on study leave.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I have asked about the X-ray Department. When I put the question last time, the Darbar Physician

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told us that it was very cruel to appoint a man in the X-ray Department for more than six months. Then what are you going to do with this officer after that period?

PRESIDENT: That does not arise here.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I have asked in (*b*): "Was any one in the department asked whether he was prepared to undergo training at his own expense in England?" May I know why Government did not ask the men already in the department?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Nobody offered himself.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is this Mr. A. O. Jacob in service?

PRESIDENT: That is in the answer itself.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): With reference to the answer to (*c*), may I know why the Government did not depute some one in the department to go to Dehra Dhun and get himself trained?

PRESIDENT: The answer is there.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Sir, medical men cannot be kept for more than six months in the X-ray Department. Then how could this particular individual alone look after it?

PRESIDENT: That does not mean that Dehra Dhun training is the proper training. That question does not arise out of that.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is it a fact that the Government have given an undertaking that he would be entertained in the service?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The answer is contained in part (*a*).

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): What is the pay offered to him on his return?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is also stated there.

State-aided Industries.

412. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam* cum *Ettumanur*): What are the industries which receive State aid in Travancore?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The industries receiving State aid are the following:—

1. *The Travancore Button Factory.* Mr. Netto, the proprietor of the factory, was given a contract for the collection of shank shells for twenty years on condition that he would start a button factory and popularise button-making in Travancore.

2. *The Travancore Sugars, Ltd.* The Government have promised to take 25 per cent. of the shares and also to buy the molasses for the manufacture of arrack.

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